

7-17-83 6-11-83
H-100
#112-1-1

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

#1
TENANT HOUSE AT IVY NECK FARM

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cumberstone Road

CITY, TOWN

Cumberstone

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Maryland

Code

24

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

Code

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Smithsonian Institution

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20560

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

4-6654

CHECK ONE

___ORIGINAL SITE
 ___MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Facing north, this abandoned house is located on the southern edge of a field at the Ivy Neck Farm, an 18th century plantation on the Chesapeake Bay that the Smithsonian Institution now owns. Years of neglect have taken their toll. Trees and vines surround the house; its wood shingled roof has gaping holes and the girders, walls, and floors are giving way, bringing the structure to the verge of collapse and making investigation of the interior hazardous.

The size and construction of this house make it quite unique in comparison with the other surviving examples of folk houses in southern Maryland, and it thereby serves as a helpful comparison. Like other folk house, it has a gabled roof and is one room deep with no entrance hall. Thus, when a person entered, one stepped directly into the domestic life of the inhabitants. Though small by modern standards, this one and a half story house was more spacious (24'6" x 16' x c.18') than the houses ordinarily inhabited by slave or postbellum tenant families. Both the facade and rear consist of three bays, something that one does not find in the typical folk house in the area. The German siding is also distinctive and gave the house a more decorative appearance than did the plain boards that covered most slave or tenant houses.

The framing timbers consisted of large hewn sills, corner posts, and plates and of 4" x 4" studs roughly cut by a circular saw and toed and nailed into the supporting girders with cut nails. This type of frame is in contrast to that of the baloon frame, the kind used more commonly in folk houses in the last quarter of the 19th century. An example of this baloon frame house is the tenant house built on the site of the slave quarters at Ivy Neck. These two houses illustrate the transition of the two basic methods of constructing a frame in 19th century folk houses in southern Maryland, this house showing the earlier.

The girders supporting the floor boards of the west room downstairs were handsomely dressed and beaded joists removed do doubt from an earlier structure (possibly 18th century).

The interior of the house is quite substantial and more commodious than the typical slave or tenant house. For example, the downstairs is divided into two rooms west, (9'6" x 15" and east, 14' x 15'); the upstairs is partitioned in a similar fashion. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Since the dwelling is a full story and a half, the upstairs is taller, giving its occupants more headroom than in the low ceilinged loft of the typical one-story house. The four principal walls of the house are lathed and plastered, as are the partitions separating the rooms, the ceilings of each floor, and even the eaves of the upstairs chambers. No slave or tenant house has been found in southern Maryland that was so thoroughly insulated.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The construction indicates that this house was built between 1840 and 1870. Its features show that it is quite different from slave houses and leads one to surmise that it was originally built either as the residence of the overseer or of postbellum freedmen.

As a further note, it should be pointed out that researchers at The Smithsonian are investigating the history of Ivy Neck Farm and should be consulted, for the written records they examine and the oral interviews they conduct should offer a more precise knowledge of the date of construction of this house and of the occupations of its initial and later inhabitants. This knowledge will allow us to assign this house to its proper place within the context of the evolution of folk houses in southern Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

4A-2254

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Commission of Afro-American & Indian History & Culture

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

12 W. Madison Street

(301) 383-3648

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Baltimore

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

DESCRIPTION (continued)

-2-

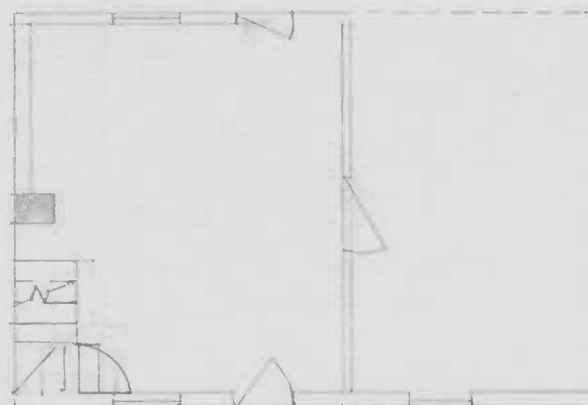
Number 7

A small, square stove chimney ascends the wall inside the eastern gable end and is original to the structure. This house then exemplifies one of the early stages of the transition in heating and cooking in folk houses, for it is one of the first (at least among those still standing) to have a wood stove when built.

In keeping with the custom in folk housing, the upstairs chambers were without a stove, or any source of heat, except that which rose through the stairwell and through the floorboards. Nonetheless, because these upstairs rooms were better insulated by the lathing and plastering, they would have been considerably warmer in the winter than those in the average slave or tenant house.

Each room downstairs had two double hung sash windows, one in the front and one in the rear. These windows provided more illumination to the interior of this house than in most slave/tenant cabins. These windows suggest 1) that the occupants of the house had a position on the plantation that gave them the freedom of choice and the means to have windows; 2) that daylight hours were not consigned solely to the fields, but that some leisure time might be spent in the house, prompting the desire to look out into the world; 3) better illumination facilitated domestic activities, i.e., sewing, cleaning, cooking.

E



SCALE $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'0''$



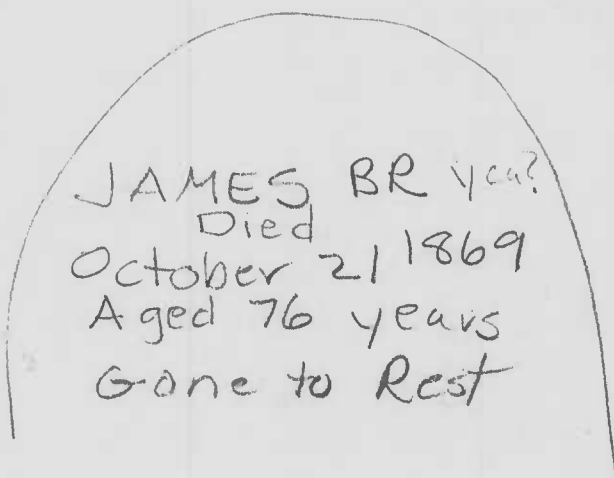
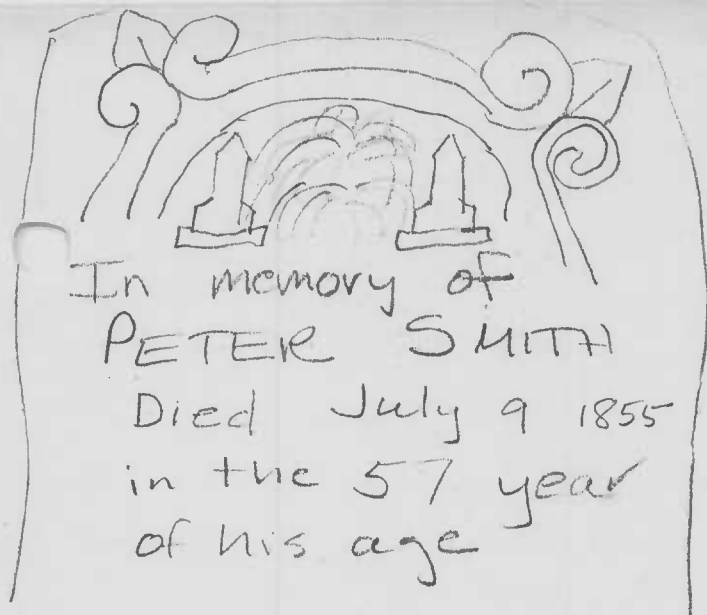
EXTERIOR WALL LENGTH TO SCALE
INTERIOR DIVISIONS AND DETAILS NOT TO SCALE

IVY NECK FARM
TENANT HOUSE #1
WEST RIVER, MARYLAND

FEBRUARY 22, 1985

AA-225A

Geo. Downs: AA-225A
resource
for cemetery



(head stone)



(foot stone)

(JB)

IVY NECK CEMETARY

(BLACK BURIAL GROUND
now on Smithsonian
land, close to Cheston
Creek)

drawn 2/11/85
by Dale Dowling
Galaxville Md.

1. Deed of Manumission, August 6, 1844 (copy attached), from A. A. County Manumissions 1844-1866, page 7.

"To all whom it may concern be it known that We Caspar Morris and Ann C. Morris of Anne Arundel County in the State of Maryland for divers good causes & considerations us thereunto moving have released from Slavery liberated manumitted and set free and do by these presents hereby liberate manumit and set free our Negro Woman Fanny Davis to take Effect on Jan. 1st 1846- Also our Negro girl Ellen Wilson to take effect on Jan. 1st 1852- Our Negro Boy Sam Davis to take Effect on Jan. 1. 1854 and our Negro boy William Neale of Kitty to take Effect on Jan. 1. 1862. At which times they will all be of age and able to gain a livelihood and maintenance. And them the said Negroes named Fanny Davis Ellen Wilson Sam Davis & William Neale of Kitty We do declare to be at the dates mentioned free manumitted and discharged from all manner of Service or Servitude to us our Executors or Administrators forever In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & seals this Sixth day of August in the year of our Lord 1844.

Signed sealed and delivered

Caspar Morris (Seal)

in the presence of

Ann C. Morris (Seal)

Gassaway Winterson

Jas. Cheston

At the foot of the foregoing was thus written to wit:
Anne Arundel County to wit: on this 6th day of August 1844 personally appears Caspar Morris and Ann C. Morris before the Subscriber a justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid and acknowledged the within deed or instrument of writing to be their act and deed according to the true intent and meaning thereof and the acts of assembly in such case made and provided Witness my hand the day and year first above written

Gassaway Winterson

Recorded the 12th day of November 1844."

2. Deed of Manumission, recorded Nov. 12, 1844, page 5:

"...Caspar and Ann C. Morris released ... William Smith, Richard Neal, John Davis, Ned Johnson, Daniel Davis, Julia Hobbs ..."

3. Deed of Manumission, recorded Nov. 12, 1844, page 6:

"...James Cheston released... Charlotte Davis to take effect 1846, Sally Smith to take effect 1858, Sophy Carroll to take effect 1853, James Smith to take effect 1855 ..."

4. Deed of Manumission, recorded Jan. 2, 1845, page 8:

"...Samuel Cheston released... Thomas Matthews, (boy) Tiny Wilson to take effect Jan. 1st 1850, John H. Smith, Sophy Davis, William Bias, Ellen Hobbs ..."

5. Deed of Manumission, recorded Nov. 29, 1848, page 49:

"...James Cheston released ... Walter Ward ..."

1860 Census, 1st Election District, A.A.County, Md., page 80:

Househld #574 - Henry M. Murray, 27, Farmer, Value of Real Estate: 0, Value of Personal Estate: 1832.

Mary Murray, 24

Cornelia Murray, 2

(Note. Henry Murray & family appear to have been living at Ivy Neck. His father-in-law Dr. Caspar Morris was the owner of record of the farm, but was not residing there.)

Househld #575 - Mary Dean, 25, B(lack), Farmhand

London Steuart, 75, B, Farmhand

James Bryan, 75, B, Farmhand

(Note. This is probably the man whose tombstone is in the black graveyard on the west side of Cheston Creek. "James Bryan - Died Oct.21,1869 - Aged 76 Years - - Gone to Rest")

Rachael Neal, 70, B

Moses Smith, 60, B, Farmhand

Jerry Smith, 50, B, Farmhand

James Smith, 27, B, Farmhand

Sophia Smith, 24, B, Farmhand

#576 - Chas. Smith, 32, B, Farmhand

Ellen Smith, 30, B

Margaret Smith, 6, B

Harry Smith, 4, B

Charles Smith, 1, B

#577 - James Farirse, 30, B, Farmhand

Caroline Farirse, 28, B

Jane Farirse, 3, B

#578 - Henry Wilson, 45, B, Farmhand

(Note. In 1871 Henry Wilson bought 25 acres on north side of Main Street in Galesville and built a 2½-story farmhouse, now abandoned, next to baseball field.)

Kitty Wilson, 44, B

Ellen Wilson, 14, B

Richard Wilson, 12, B

Joseph Wilson, 5, B

William Neal, 18, B, Farmhand

(Note. Wm. Neale and his mother Kitty are mentioned in a 8/6/1844 Deed of Manumission from Caspar and Ann C. Morris.)

#579 - Sam'l Bryan, 22, B, Farmhand

Joseph Bryan, 20, B, Farmhand

John Bryan, 17, B

Thomas Bryan, 12, B

Househld #579 - Priscilla Watkins, 50, B

NB. The 1860 Census was divided into two categories. The above list is taken from the "Population Schedules" which enumerated both white and free black persons.

The second category, or "Slave Schedules", enumerated slaveowners by name and their slaves by age and sex only.

The 1860 Slave Schedule did not mention Henry Murray. It did list 32 slaves under Mary Mercer (at Cedar Park), and 5 slaves under R. S. Mercer (at Parkhurst).

The six black "households" listed below Henry Murray in the Census (#575 thru #579) were apparently all part of the Ivy Neck Farm workforce.

This additional information on Ivy Neck Tenant House #1 was assembled during the 1985 Galesville Black History Survey by the Anne Arundel County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust.

According to oral testimony provided by John Colhoun, lifelong neighbor of Tenant Hse.#1, and Sam and Jessie Neal, former occupants, the original location of this tenant house, prior to 1930, was in the vicinity of the barns and "slave quarter" of Ivy Neck Farm, near to Ivy Neck Tenant Hse.#2 (AA-225B).

Tenant House #1 was built sometime after 1840, being constructed with circular-sawn studs. (Circular saws were not much in use before 1840.)

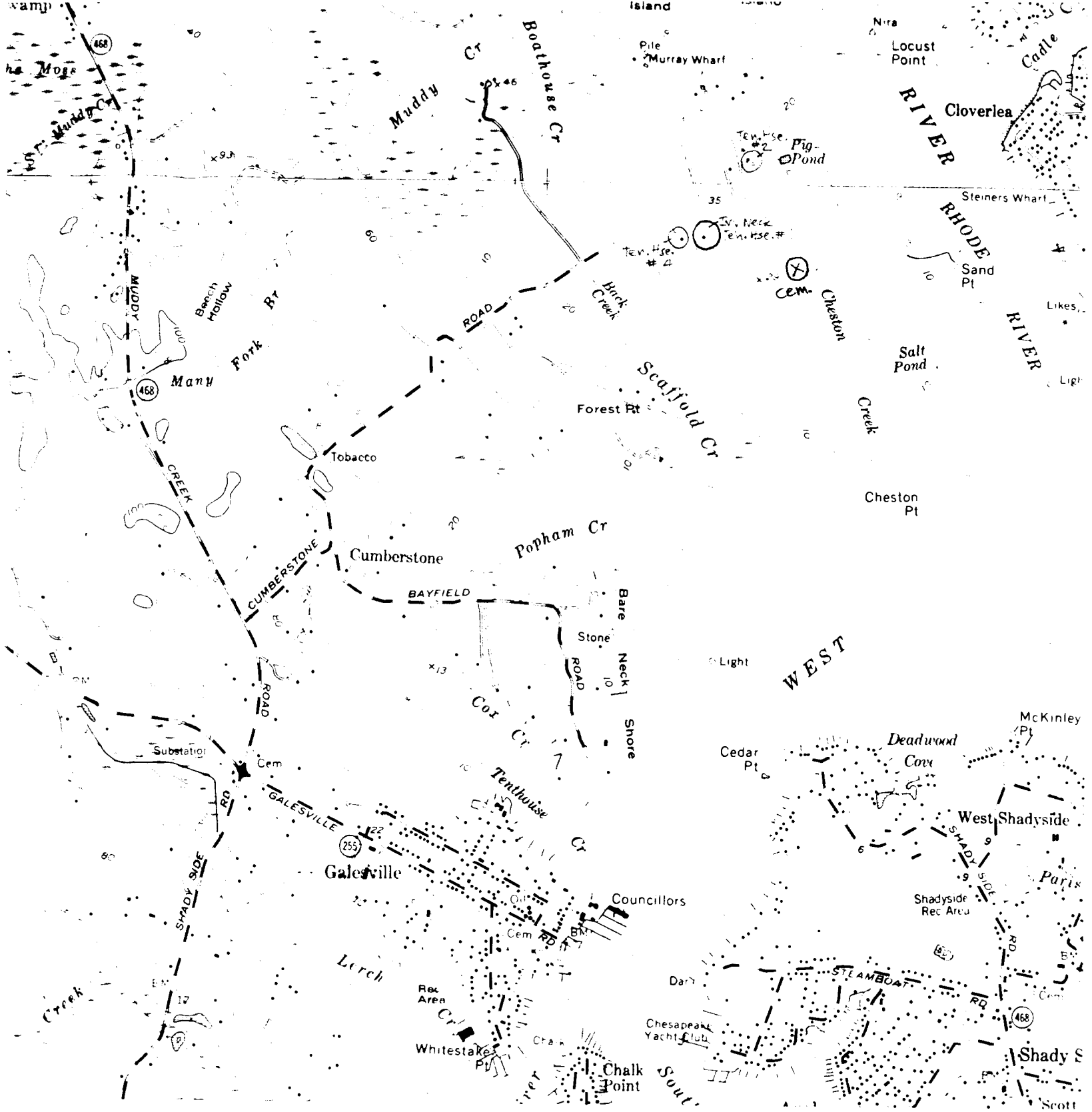
Tenant House #1 is often referred to as "the old slave house" by Cheston family descendants. However, 19th-century Ivy Neck owners Caspar and Ann Cheston Morris had freed their slaves by 1844. Therefore it is unlikely that this house saw much use as a slave quarter. Rather it probably housed a black tenant family or group of black workers - in fact it was probably occupied by one of the five "households" of blacks listed in the 1860 census just below the "household" of Henry Murray, 27, "Farmer", who was managing Ivy Neck for his absentee father-in-law Caspar Morris. (See attached page of information taken from the 1860 Federal Census for Cumberland. Also see page quoting two 1844 deeds of manumission from Caspar and Ann Morris, and three deeds from Ann's brothers James and Samuel Cheston.)

In 1930 Tenant House #1 was moved to its present location at the edge of the woods, east of Ivy Neck Tenant Hse.#4. Sam Neal, when asked who lived in it before it was moved, answered "Nobody, because that was an old house that had been there for years - they moved it over on that side for me special." (1) At age 26 Sam and his first wife and three children moved from Owensville into Tenant Hse.#1. At the same time his father, mother, and four siblings moved into Tenant Hse.#4. Sam Jr. and Sam Sr. had begun tenant-farming at Ivy Neck in 1918, and for 12 years they had walked daily from their house near Chews Church in Owensville before actually moving their families to Ivy Neck in 1930. In 1937 while continuing to live in Ivy Neck Ten.Hse.#1 Sam began working for Mrs. Kirkpatrick at Parkhurst Farm, one mile east. In 1943 his first wife died. He married Jessie Collins and in 1947 they moved to Parkhurst Farm Tenant House (AA-907), the same house that Jessie had lived in c.1932-43 with her grandfather Moses Brent.

Various other tenants moved in and out of Ivy Neck Ten.Hse.#1 during the next 15 or so years after Sam Neal: John Johnson lived there awhile before moving into I.N.Tenant Hse.#4 c.1950.

In 1966 the owners of Ivy Neck sold 330 acres of farmland to the Smithsonian to be part of the Smithsonian's Rhode River Environmental Research Center, with the intent of protecting the land from development. The 330 acres included Ivy Neck Tenant Houses #1 and #4 which are now vacant and in ruins. Also included was an old black burial ground on the west side of Cheston Creek. There are two grave stones and a foot stone still standing in this overgrown cemetery; there also appear to be several unmarked mounds. (See attached photos and sketch of inscriptions.)

(1) Oral interview 4/3/85 with Sam Neal (b.1904 - d.1986)



Deal, MD. quadrangle
 USGS map
 Scale 1:24,000
 1457, Revised 1979

AA-225A
 Ivy Neck Tenant House #1
 Cumberstone



AA-225A

IVY NECK FARM TENANT HSE.#1

Q.Q.Co. MD

S. Wetherill, 2/85

facade, N. elev.



AA-225A

1/85

IVY NECK FARM TEN. HSE. # 1

G. G. Co. MD.

S. Wehrill, 1/85

NE corner



AA 225 A

IVY NECK FARM TEN. HSE. # 1

G. G. Co. MD.

S. Wehrill, 2/85

SE corner



AA. 225 A

IVY NECK FARM TEN. HSE. # 1

Q. A. Co. MD

S. Wetherill, 1/85

detail, S. elev.



2/85

JAMES ~~BRYEN~~
BRYEN

2/85

AA-225A

IVY NECK BLACK BURIAL GROUND
(West side of Cheston Creek.)

"James Bryen(?) - Died October
21, 1869 - Aged 76 years - Gone
to Rest" Footstone: "J.B."

S. Wetherill photo

J. B.



PETER SMITH

AA. 225 A

IVY NECK BLACK BURIAL GROUND
(west side of Cheston Creek)

"In memory of Peter Smith -
Died July 9, 1855 - in The 57
year of his age."

S. Wetherill, 2/85



Ivy Neck Tenant House #1

AA-225A

S.M.

1/76

MH7 Annapolis

South Elevation